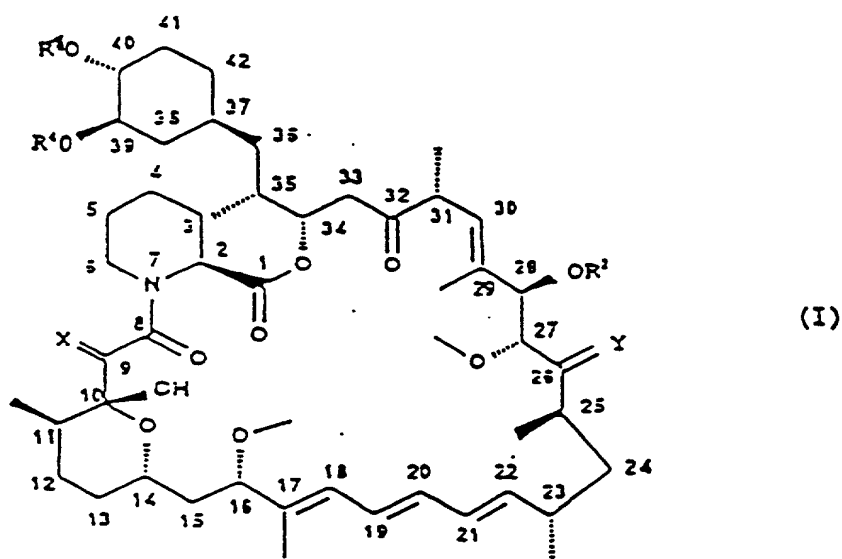


CLAIMS

1. Use of a compound of formula I



wherein

X is (H,H) or O;

Y is (H,OH) or O;

R¹ and R² are independently selected from

H, alkyl, arylalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, dihydroxyalkyl, hydroxyalkoxycarbonylalkyl, hydroxyalkylarylalkyl, dihydroxyalkylarylalkyl, acyloxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonylaminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, arylsulfonamidoalkyl, allyl, dihydroxyalkylallyl, dioxolanylallyl, dialkyl-dioxolanylalkyl, di(alkoxycarbonyl)-triazolyl-alkyl and hydroxyalkoxyalkyl; wherein "alk-" or "alkyl" is C₁₋₆alkyl, branched or linear; "aryl" is phenyl or tolyl; and acyl is a radical derived from a carboxylic acid;

and

R⁴ is methyl or

R⁴ and R¹ together form C₂₋₆alkyl;

provided that R¹ and R² are not both H; and hydroxyalkoxyalkyl is other than hydroxyalkoxymethyl in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for preventing or treating neointimal proliferation and thickening.

2. Use of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, for use in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for preventing or combating manifestations of chronic rejection in a recipient of organ or tissue transplant.
3. Use of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, for use in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition, for preventing or treating restenosis and/or vascular occlusion following vascular injury.
4. Use of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, for use in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition, for preventing or combating acute or chronic rejection in a recipient of organ or tissue xenograft transplant.
5. Use of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, for preventing or treating neointimal proliferation and thickening, restenosis and/or vascular occlusion following vascular injury, or for preventing or combating manifestations of chronic rejection in a recipient of organ or tissue transplant, or acute or chronic rejection in a recipient of organ or tissue xenograft transplant.
6. A pharmaceutical composition for preventing or treating neointimal proliferation and thickening, restenosis and/or vascular occlusion following vascular injury, or for preventing or combating manifestations of chronic rejection in a recipient of organ or tissue transplant, or acute or chronic rejection in a recipient of organ or tissue xenograft transplant.

comprising a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1 together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable diluents or carriers therefor.

7. A method for preventing or treating neointimal proliferation and thickening, restenosis, and/or vascular occlusion following vascular injury, comprising the step of administering to said recipient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1.

8. A method for preventing or combating manifestations of chronic rejection in a recipient of organ or tissue transplant, or acute or chronic rejection in a recipient of organ or tissue xenograft transplant, comprising the step of administering to said recipient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1.

9. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the compound of formula I is 40-0-(2-hydroxy)ethylrapamycin.

10. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6, wherein the compound of formula I is 40-0-(2-hydroxy)ethylrapamycin.